

# Urban-LEDS II

## Newsletter

October 2020



Rwandan District officials and community members take part in a participatory-driven methodology to develop District-wide climate risk and vulnerability assessments under the Urban-LEDS project © ICLEI Africa

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**City in focus: uMhathuze Municipality, South Africa**

**Urban champion: Mayor of Bogor City, Indonesia**

**Project synergies: UN-Habitat's Waste Wise Cities Campaign**

### Key Project Facts

**Name:** Accelerating climate action through the promotion of Urban Low Emission Development Strategies (Urban-LEDS II)

**Start Date:** 1/4/2017 • **End Date:** 31/03/2021 • **Duration:** 48 months • **Total Budget:** 8,000,000 €

**Funding mechanism:** European Union (DCI-ENV/2017/384-555)

**Consortium:** UN-Habitat HQ and regional offices in Lao PDR, Rwanda and Colombia, ICLEI World Secretariat and 5 ICLEI regional offices active in Europe, Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia, India, Lao PDR, Rwanda and South Africa

## New project resources



- [New guide](#) on Enhancing NDCs through urban climate action
- Multilevel governance factsheets for [Lao PDR](#), [South Africa](#), [Indonesia](#) and [India](#)
- Case study on Implementing low-carbon measures in a municipal school in Thane, India
- [Policy Solution](#) on Efficient Street Lighting using LED

## National Climate Action: Why Cities Matter

Analysing the existing NDCs submitted as of 2016, UN-Habitat found that 68 per cent of countries do include references to sustainable urban development. Yet member states were still asking us: if urban areas contribute significantly to global emissions, and if our cities are so vulnerable to climate impacts, what can we do to ensure the urban content of national climate actions (NDCs) is increased?

UN-Habitat convened an expert group of urban practitioners, climate change spe-

cialists, and government officials at the margins of COP25 to consider answers to this question. The new guide - *"Enhancing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) through urban climate action"* - identifies two areas of focus as described in the diagrams and text below.

UN-Habitat and ICLEI hope that this guide helps urban practitioners to better engage with the NDC process and support governments to enhance ambition by integrating urban and human settlement issues into NDCs. We also hope

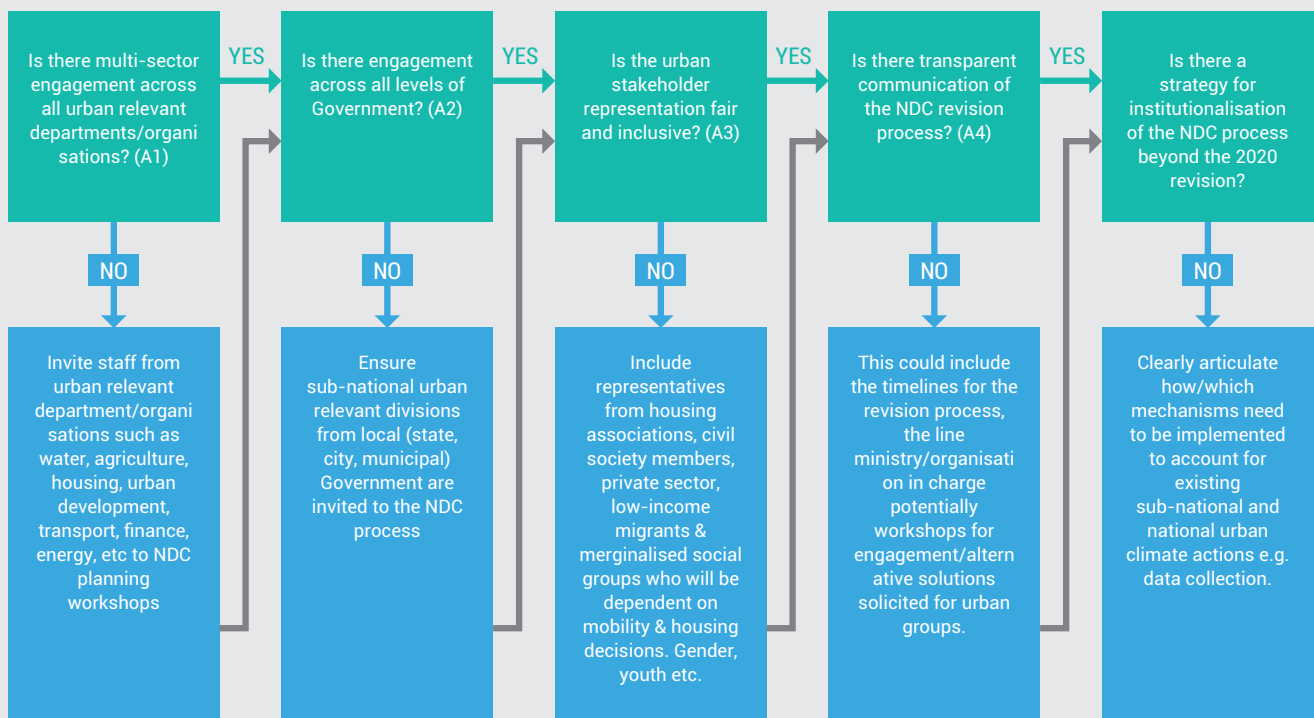
that it will be a useful resource for, and contribution to, government efforts to improve low-carbon and resilient national and urban development, by inspiring NDC teams to strengthen their collaboration with urban stakeholders and activate cities as a source of climate action potential. We stand ready to support member states in this endeavour and continue to work alongside national governments to apply this guide.

Read the full story on this [Urbanet Blogpost](#) and [access the guide here](#)

1. Engaging a diverse range of urban stakeholders in NDC planning and implementation. NDCs can be enhanced through transparent communication of the NDC revision process, giving a diverse set of stakeholders the chance to provide quality inputs and engage. Coordinators should engage across sectors of all urban-relevant departments and organisations, and with all levels of government (national, subnational, and local), ensuring a fair and inclusive urban stakeholder representation.
2. Identify concrete policies and actions for integrating human settlements in the NDC, by applying an urban lens. Is the new NDC building on existing city climate and resilience plans and actions that are already contributing to NDC targets, and has the alignment with existing urban policy been assessed? Have urban mitigation and adaptation opportunities been conceptualised? Is there a clear finance strategy for each urban mitigation and adaptation opportunity, with responsibility, time frames, monitoring frameworks, and budgets considered? Have technology options that may enhance decarbonisation and resilience of urban environment been evaluated?

### Checklist for integrating urban climate actions into NDCs

**Key Opportunity #A: Engage a diverse range of urban stakeholders in NDC planning**  
**In the process of the NDC revision:**

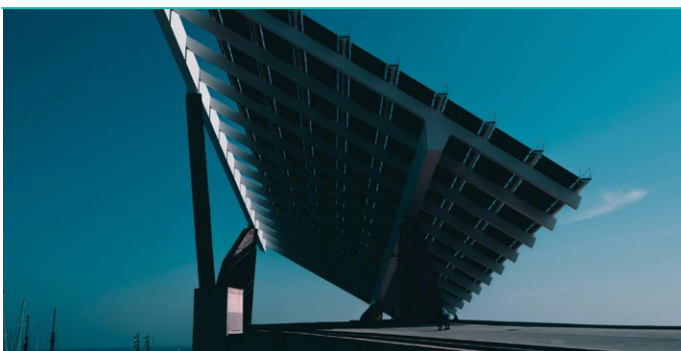


### Bangladesh: Rajshahi conducts energy audit to enhance energy efficiency in buildings

Rajshahi city in Bangladesh recently undertook a detailed energy audit of its main municipal administrative building with the support of the Urban-LEDS II project. The purpose of the audit was to demonstrate possible opportunities and benefits from the adoption of energy-efficient solutions and technologies. [Read the full story here](#)



Field energy audit by experts and with municipal staff in progress at the RCC main office. © ICLEI SAS



Giant solar panel. © Biel Morro | Unsplash

### Brazil: Webinars held on technical and financial viability of low carbon municipal projects in the energy sector

LEDS Lab webinars aimed to share with South American project municipalities the knowledge acquired during the development of the LEDS Lab pilot projects in the Brazilian cities of Belo Horizonte and Recife. [Read the full story here](#)

### Colombia: Colombian cities advance in local climate action

A series of webinars were held from June to August 2020 aiming at supporting local actions for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction and adaptation to climate change. [Read the full story here](#)



Bogotá, Colombia. © Flavia Carpio



Solar PV system installed on social housing by Rajkot municipal corporation. © ICLEI SAS

### India: Rajkot bags the one planet city challenge winner title

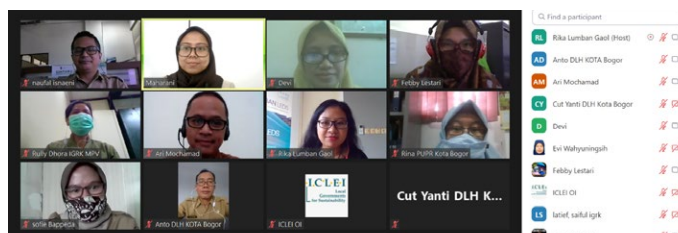
Rajkot city recently received recognition by being declared as the national winner of WWF's One Planet City Challenge. [Read the full story here](#)



### Indonesia: Cities of Balikpapan and Bogor prioritize emission development strategies in local planning

Following the completion of GHG inventories, validation workshops were conducted to address remaining data gaps as well as address challenges in data gathering and to prioritize emission reduction strategies into local development planning.

[Read the full story here](#)



Continuing adaptation to new normal due to COVID-19 pandemic, validation workshop held via Zoom application, attended by the Bogor City Government, Regional Development Agency, Environment Agency, and Public Work Agency. © ICLEI SEAS



Participants of the validation workshop in Kaysone Phomvihane discusses the key findings of the GHG risk and vulnerability assessment for their city. © ICLEI SEAS

### Lao PDR: Cities conduct GHG inventories and climate risk and vulnerability assessments

Validation workshops were conducted to verify initial findings of the GHG emission inventory and the climate risk and vulnerability assessment (CRVA). Findings from these two reports are crucial in ensuring evidence based integrated climate action planning for the cities of Pakse and Kaysone Phomvihane.

[Read the full story here](#)

### Rwanda: Using community insight to understand hazards, risks, and disaster implications

New research completed in three Rwandan districts drives new insight and vigour for climate change mitigation and adaptation planning. [Read the full story here.](#)



Rwandan District officials and community members take part in a participatory-driven methodology to develop climate risk and vulnerability assessments. © ICLEI SEAS

### South Africa: KwaDukuza triumphs as the national WWF One Planet City Challenge winner

KwaDukuza triumphs as the national WWF One Planet City Challenge winner. [Read the full story here.](#)



The statue of Chief Albert Luthuli, Nobel Prize winner and President of The African National Congress, is a landmark in KwaDukuza

## Project synergies: Waste Wise Cities Campaign

Waste Wise Cities was launched by UN-Habitat on World Habitat Day in 2018. Currently 2 billion people worldwide lack access to waste collection and 3 billion to controlled waste disposal. Waste Wise Cities is a programme that supports its member cities in the areas of Waste Data & Monitoring; Knowledge & Good Practices Sharing; Advocacy & Education; and Finance & Bankability Support. More than 150 cities have become members. Waste Wise Cities equips cities with in-depth understanding on evidence-



based policy and intervention design and participatory project development process based on waste SDGs targets and indicators through provision of tools, guides and online courses, as well as best practice sharing. The Campaign was presented to participating cities during the recent [online project nursery](#) workshop hosted by the Urban-LEDS project; and further opportunities for supporting Urban-LEDS project cities in their waste management journeys are being identified.

## City in focus: uMhlathuze, South Africa; An Urban-LEDs II city proactively leading to combat climate change



View of Richards Bay. © uMhlathuze Municipality

Renowned for being an economic powerhouse in South Africa, the City of uMhlathuze is home to the biggest harbour on the continent, the largest coal export facility in the world, and many heavy industries, such as aluminium smelting. Over the years, the City of uMhlathuze seen high in-migration from the rural areas in search of livelihood and education opportunities. This has increased the pressure on the City's infrastructure, the built environment and exacerbated high energy consumption. Due to the nature of the industrial activity, the City of uMhlathuze is considered one of the areas with the highest greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in KZN, surpassing the City of eThekweni. "Climate change has emerged as a cardinal pillar in local planning," says Nontsundu Ndonga, Deputy Municipal Manager; City Development. "The City of uMhlathuze has heeded this call by acknowledging its impact at a local scale and has made concerted efforts to institutionalize mitigation and adaptation responses into service delivery functions of the City. Strategic policy initiatives such as the Integrated Urban Development

Framework integrate climate change as a cornerstone theory of change to foster a risk-averse approach to budgeting, planning and climate proofing urban development."

The Municipal Climate Change Action Plan is informed by a vulnerability assessment and incorporates priority and cross-cutting interventions as climate responses. The work is sanctioned by a core team, the "Green Team," representing various departments across the municipality serving as a vehicle to mainstream climate action across the municipal functional departments. The institutionalization process has furthermore included civil society and partnerships with business. The core objective is to leave no one behind. This is even more prevalent in times of a health crisis, where issues of sustainability come to the fore. "The COVID 19 pandemic will no doubt alter the course of our developmental trajectory and, through our Economic Recovery Plan, growth and development must be cognizant of ecological parameters and reducing greenhouse emissions" says Ndonga. "Programs like Urban-LEDs II," she says, "are a vehicle to frame our

climate action responses and let us reflect on the importance of social partners in mobilizing an all-of-society approach to successfully implement our sustainability agenda."

The City has also identified the need to proactively take a leading role by not only relying on external resources to address climate change, but to also mobilize the municipality's own resources to carry out measures against climate change, such as compiling a GHG inventory and green building guidelines. These measures will support the City's decision-making process going forward. Like many cities in South Africa, emissions from the City of uMhlathuze are predominately attributed to electricity consumption from stationary energy, notably the manufacturing and construction industry. This highlights the need to identify measures to be put in place by the municipality to reduce emissions in the specified sector. Although the municipality has no mandate over the manufacturing and construction sector's energy usage, Council is the mandated authority for the approval of building plans for new buildings and the retrofitting of existing buildings. As such the municipality sees the green building guidelines as a stepping stone to reduce the emissions from the stationary energy sector in general. Going forward, the City of uMhlathuze sees strategic partnerships as imperative for the municipality for profiling, networks and access to programs and climate finance. As such, the municipality has embarked on programs with various partners in efforts to scale up responses to climate threats, with ICLEI's Urban-LEDs II being one. The municipality's involvement in the latter has also created opportunities for involvement in Smart Building Metering and the Training of Building Inspectors.

[Read online here](#)



Spatial Planning & Land Use Management



Sustainable Transport Planning



Energy Efficient Development



Alternative Energy Supply



Water



Solid Waste



Natural Resource Management



Sustainable Resources



Green Procurement

### Sectoral interventions in uMhlathuze's Green Building Guideline

## Urban champion:

Dr. Arya Sugiarto, S.Hum.,M.A., Mayor of Bogor City

Each newsletter, we hand over the mic to local government staff in Urban-LEDS cities, so they can tell you their story of promoting low-emission development in their municipalities



Mayor of Bogor City (photo from Bogor City Government).

### Three Identities of Bogor City

Bogor City has three identities, namely Green City, Smart City, and Heritage City that are in line with the city's vision. To support this vision, Mayor Bima Arya signed the "Tri Karsa Bogor" (Partnership with Indonesian Cities) Declaration together with other pioneering Indonesian cities at Bogor Botanical Garden in 2015. Through the declaration,

these 11 cities committed to realize low emission development, minimize negative impact of development to the environment and the society, and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

One of the most impactful city policies is the single-use plastic ban through Bogor Mayor Regulation No. 61 of 2018. The policy has helped reduce 41 tons of plastic waste per month based on the data reported by the Environmental Agency.

### The City Development Principles

Mayor Bima Arya promotes four development principles for Bogor City: leadership; collaboration, integration and acceleration; Penta helix, a socio-economic development model that promotes collaboration from members of the society and the different levels of government; and, lastly, cultural development. "The four principles are complementary and cannot stand-alone," explained Mayor Bima.

Mayor Bima Arya often conducts blusukan or site visits to monitor the

ongoing city programs and to listen to the citizen's aspiration. As he loves running and is active on social media, he reported the achievement of city in 2019 through his official Instagram account using the hashtag #BogorBerlari (Bogor Run). Among the current initiatives being prioritized by Mayor Bima include the development of public open spaces and city to achieve the 20% coverage target as stated in the spatial planning year 2011-2031; construction of pedestrian facilities, sidewalks and bike lanes in order to eliminate one point of congestion, encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport; provision of public infrastructures including health services and transportation will also continue to be improved.

Bogor City's initiatives have been recognized both at the national and international level. In 2019 alone, the city garnered 81 awards and recognitions. During his tenure, the Mayor shared there are memories that will always be remembered, such as when Bogor City won the title of The Most Lovable City in the World in the 2016 We Love Cities global campaign event.

[Read online here](#)

## Upcoming events and important announcements

[Urban LEDS inspired Solution Session "Beyond Climate emergency: Turning ambition to action" at Mannheim2020 Conference.](#)

2 October 2020, 9:30 -11:00. Online!



### Daring Cities 2020 -

The Bonn Forum for Urban Leaders Taking on the Climate Emergency. **7-28 October 2020. Online!**  
<https://daringcities.org/>

### For more information on the Urban-LEDS project;



[www.urban-leds.org](http://www.urban-leds.org)



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